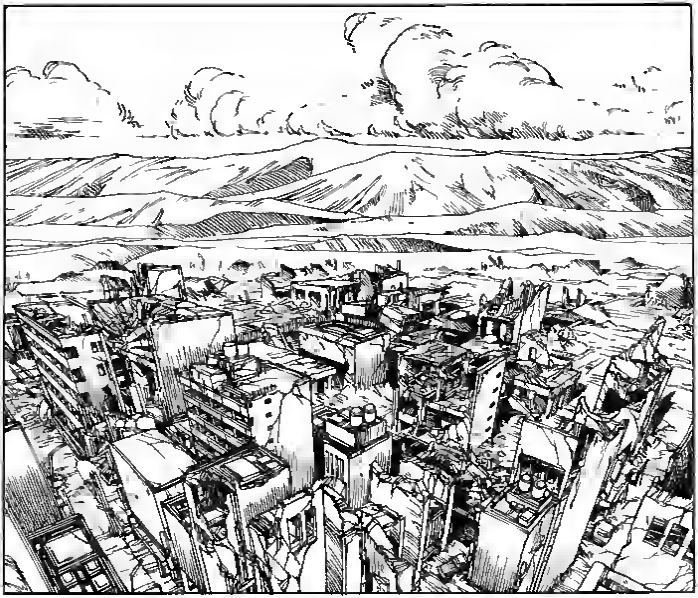
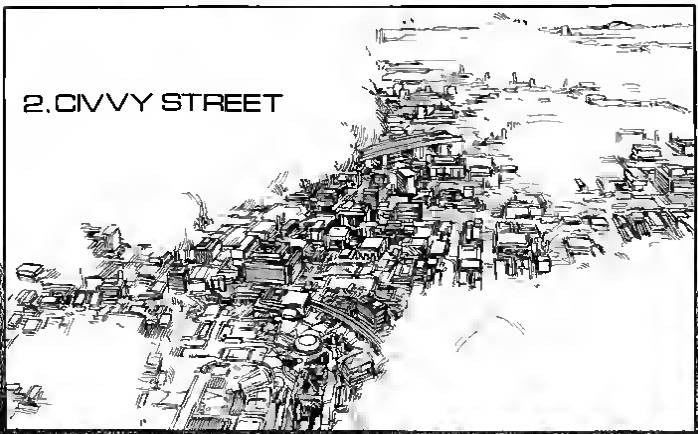
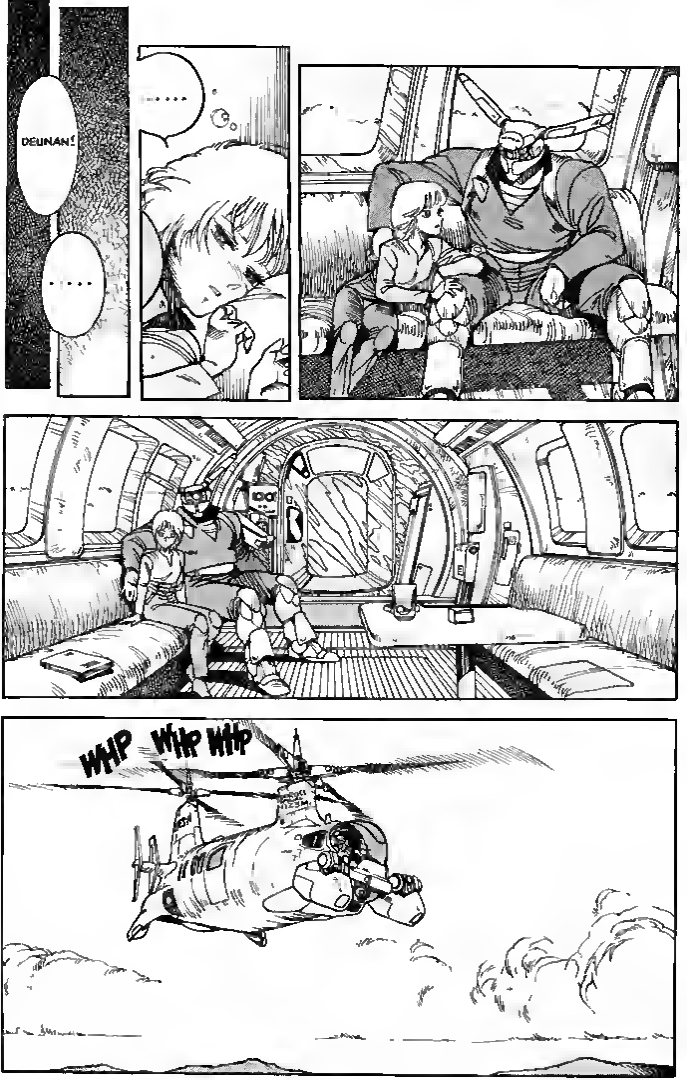


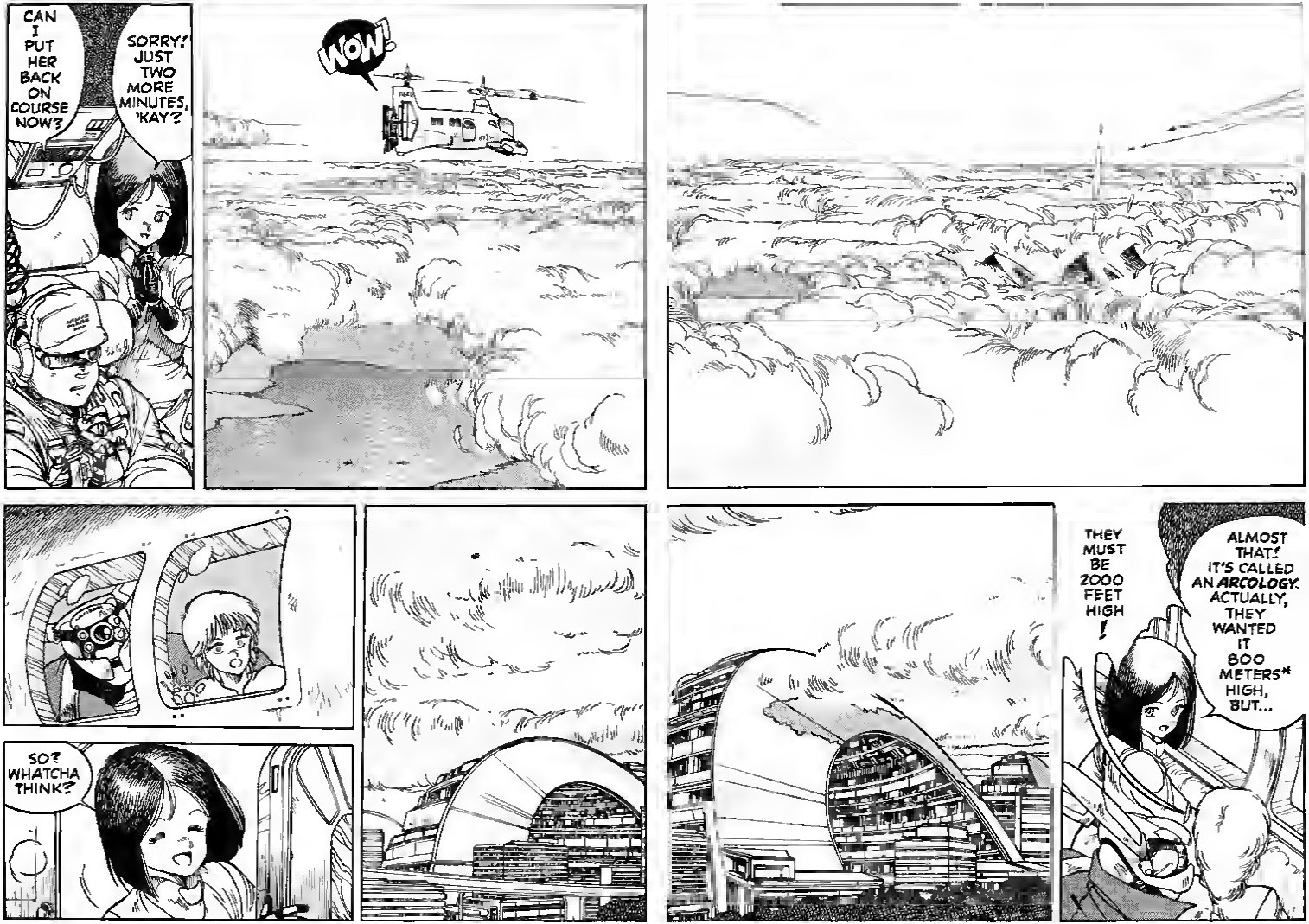

2. CIVVY STREET

OKAY? LISTEN UP!
ANYTIME YOU LOOK RIGHT, LOOK LEFT! ANYTIME YOU LOOK UP, LOOK DOWN!
LOOK EVERYWHERE AT ONCE! MARK ANYTHING THAT MOVES! PULL THE TRIGGER BEFORE YOU SEE THE TARGET!
!
FAPFAP
UFF!
I TOLD YOU TO KEEP YOUR EYES MOVING! THOSE AREN'T REAL BULLETS. CHECK LATER!
CARL! LET HER REST, DAMN IT! YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE YOUR OWN DAUGHTER
KCHK
KEEP YOUR FEELINGS OUT OF THIS, BRIAREOS!

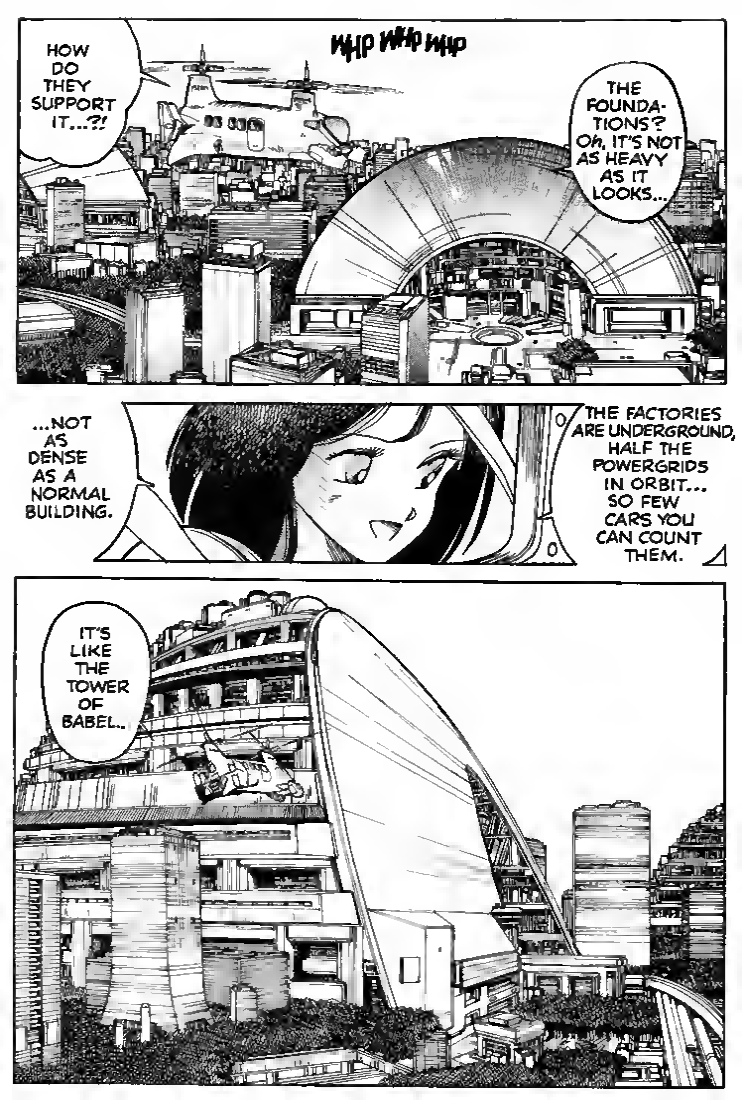
DEUNAN! HIT ANYTHING THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS. DON'T HESITATE.. THE TARGETS ARE ARMED!
WHAT ARE YOU TRAINING HER FOR, CARL? THIS ISN'T DELTA FORCE!
SO WHY ?!
WHISS
ZZZK
!
HHK!
CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING RIGHT?! IF THIS WAS REAL COMBAT YOU'D BE DEAD!
DON'T JUST LIE THERE!
DEU-NAN!
DEUNAN WHAT'S WRONG ?


DEUNAN!
.....
.....
WHP WHP WHP

HI! IN JUST A FEW MINUTES, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE OLYMPUS, OUR CENTRAL CITY.
CHK
COME ON.. YOU SHOULD LOOK...
GET OUT!
A.. ALL RIGHT!
KCHAK
BYM
Whew..
IT WAS SO MUCH EASIER IN S.W.A.T... YOU ALWAYS KNEW WHAT TO DO...

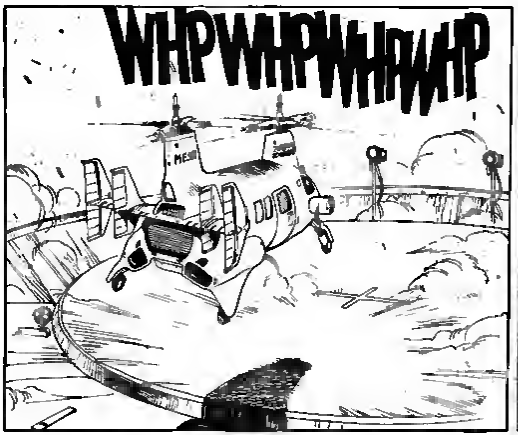

CAN I PUT HER BACK ON COURSE NOW?
SORRY! JUST TWO MORE MINUTES, 'KAY?
WOW!
SO? WHATCHA THINK?
THEY MUST BE 2000 FEET HIGH!
ALMOST THAT! IT'S CALLED AN ARCOLOGY. ACTUALLY, THEY WANTED IT 800 METERS* HIGH, BUT...

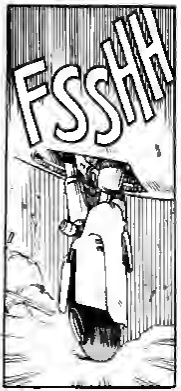
*800 METERS=2626 FEET


WHP WHP WHP
HOW DO THEY SUPPORT IT...?!
THE FOUNDATIONS? Oh, IT'S NOT AS HEAVY AS IT LOOKS...
...NOT AS DENSE AS A NORMAL BUILDING.
THE FACTORIES ARE UNDERGROUND, HALF THE POWERGRIDS IN ORBIT... SO FEW CARS YOU CAN COUNT THEM.
IT'S LIKE THE TOWER OF BABEL..

CALLED "OLYMPUS," huh?
WHP
WHP
WHP
WHEN DID THEY START IT?
Oh, YEARS AGO. BEFORE WARTIME. EVERYONE THOUGHT THEY WERE CRAZY.. DIDN'T TAKE THEM SERIOUSLY
THE PYRAMIDS WERE NOTHING COMPARED TO THIS!
NOW EVERYONE WORLDSIDE IS REBUILDING THEIR CITIES ON OUR MODEL.
WHP WHP
WHP
LIKE THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE

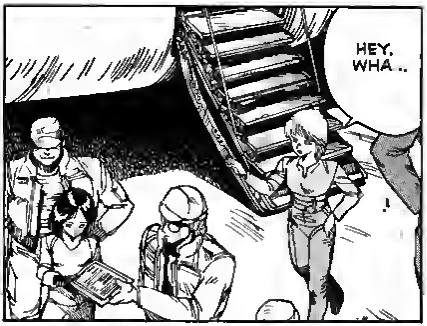
WHP WHP WHP
WHP WHP WHP
AND HEEERE WE ARE!
I'LL BE YOUR GUIDE FOR A WHILE BUT SINCE YOU SPEAK ENGLISH...
..THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM.


WHPWHPWHPWHP

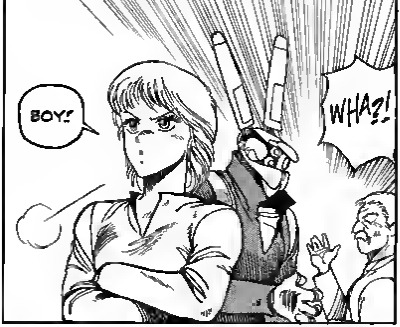

FSSHH

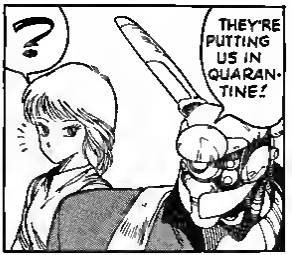
WHPWHP WHP
GCHAK

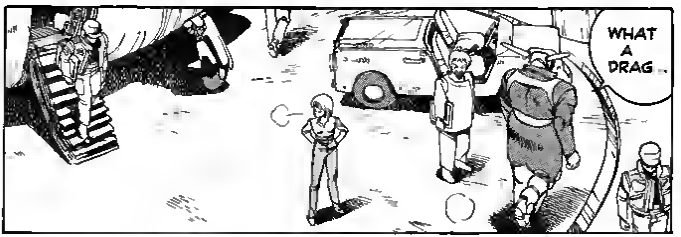
WHHF
WHHF

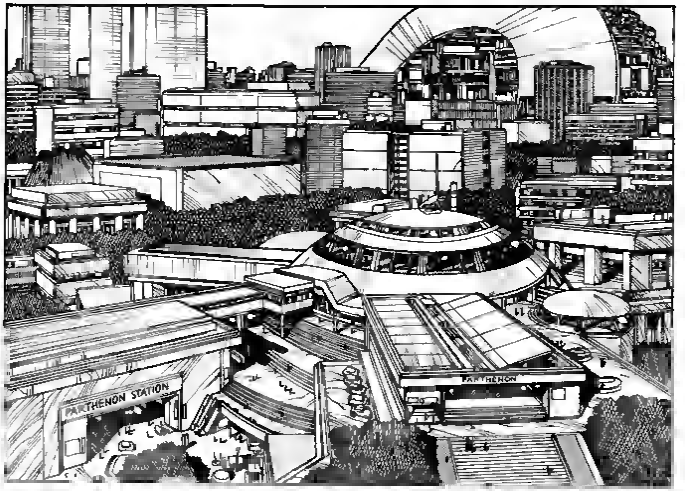

HEY. WHA ..

JUST ASK THE MAN IN GREEN, HERE.
I'LL BE IN TOUCH.


BOY!
WHA?!


?
THEY'RE PUTTING US IN QUARANTINE!


WHAT A DRAG..

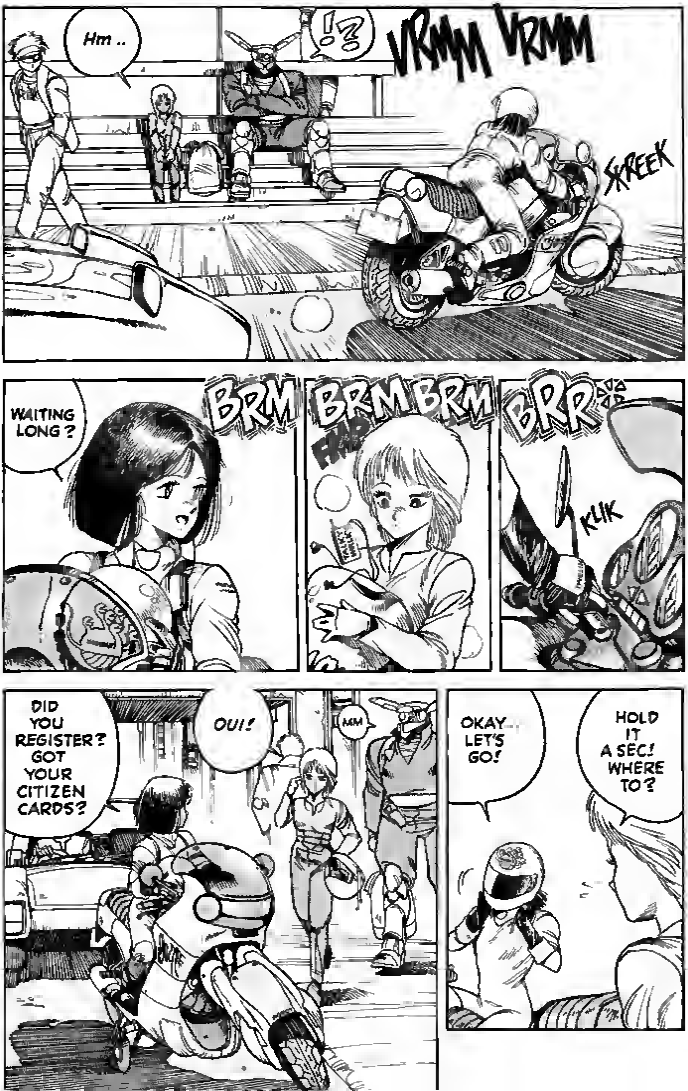

PARTHENON STATION
PARTHENON

OH!
SORRY!

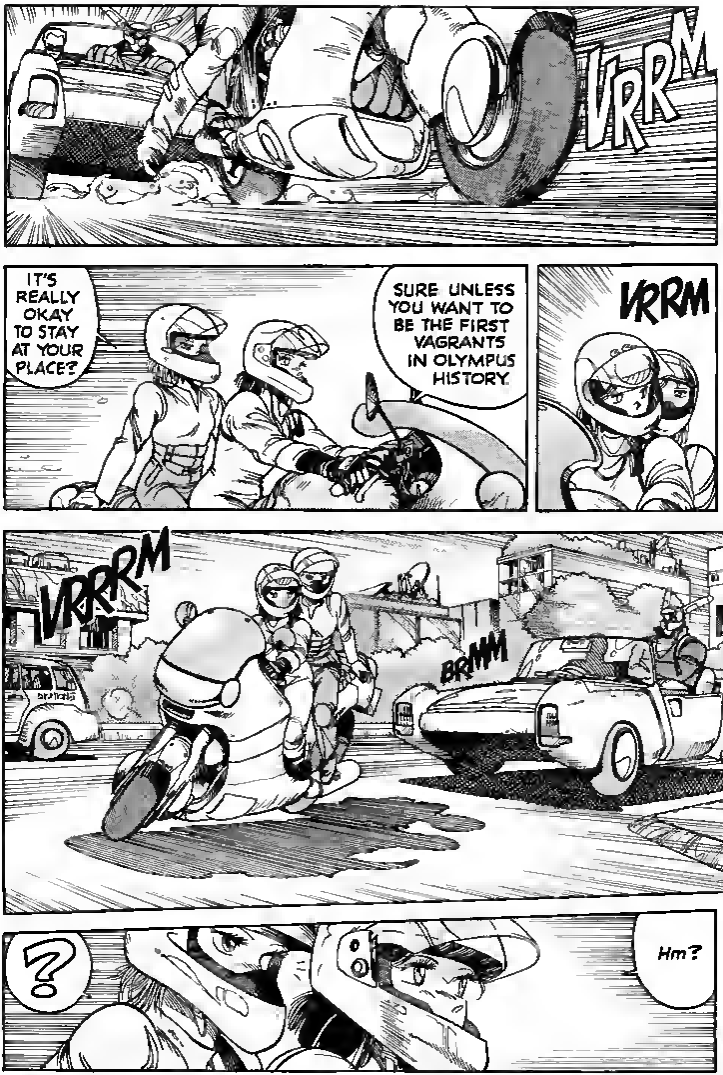
Ah, SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE.
BAD NEWS, I PRESUME?
THAT TANK BLUEBEARD AND FARSIGHT TOOK FROM THE SCRAP-YARD...
THERE'S SOME-THING LIKE IT IN THE REPORT HITOMI FILED ON HER "DOROCI" MISSION.
THEY APPARENTLY ATTACKED SOME OF THE LOCAL SUPPORT TEAMS, AND HITOMI'S ADVANCE CAMP. FORTU-NATELY, THEIR TRUE IDENTITIES ...
Hmm.. REALLY...
.....
.....
THE TWO NEW "GUESTS" ARE IN QUARANTINE. HITOMI'S BACK WITH THE COUNCIL.
Tok

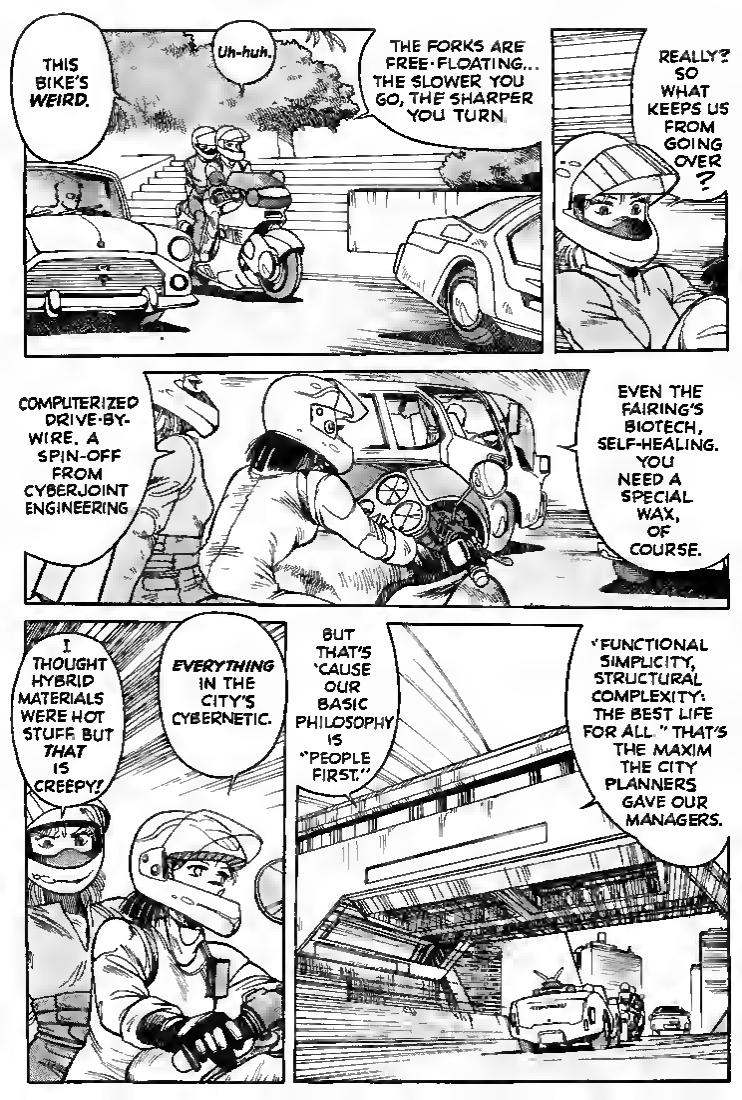
BEEP
SO?
SHE'S APPLIED FOR MORE LANDMATES. I THINK THEY'RE FOR THE GUESTS.
FIND OUT IF THEY REALLY ARE "GUESTS"--OR SOMETHING ELSE.
I'LL REPORT TO THE BUREAU CHIEF MYSELF.
GET THE EXPENSES FOR THIS FIASCO OUT OF THE HEATING AND SLIDE-WALKS BUDGET.
ONLY
MMMMMM
THE COUNCIL, hmm?
I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN A MOLE IN THERE BACK AT UNIFICATION.
THE FIRST TRUE PEACE THE SPECIES HAS KNOWN AND NOW THIS...

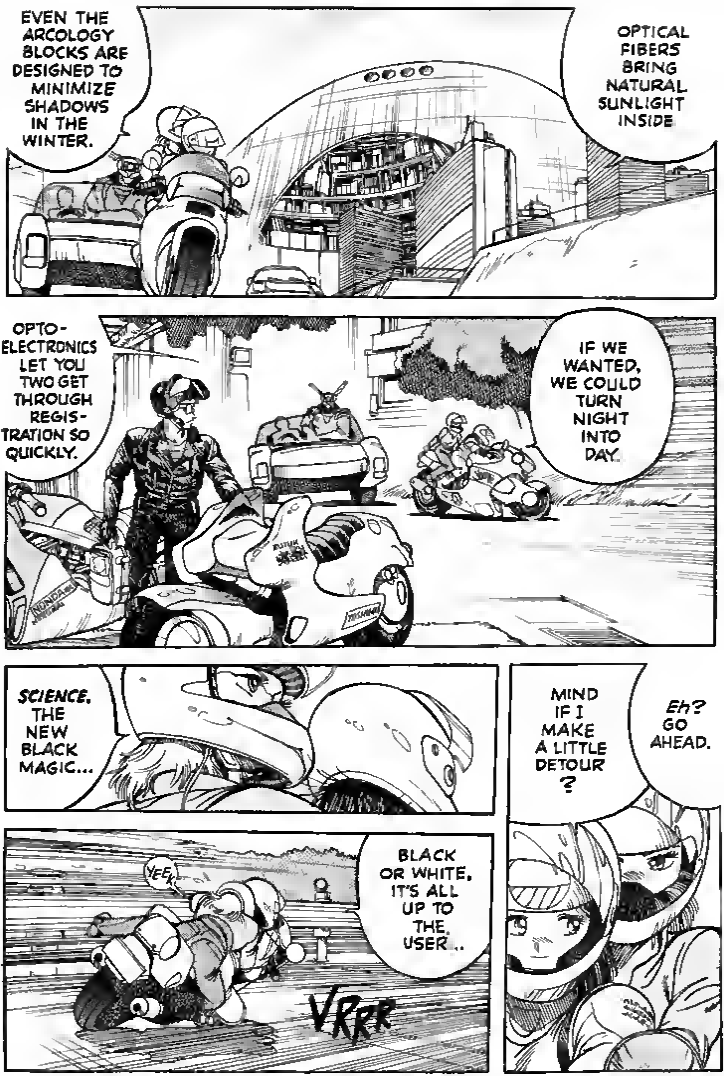
DAMN IT ANYWAY!
THEY SHOULD HAVE JUST TAKEN THE BULLETS AND LET ME KEEP IT IN THE FIRST PLACE!
YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE...
IT'S A MEMENTO OF MY FATHER! A KEEPSAKE! NOT A WEAPON!
NONE OF THEIR DAMN BUSINESS!
WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WITHOUT ANYTHING TO DO. Ah, WELL...
KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

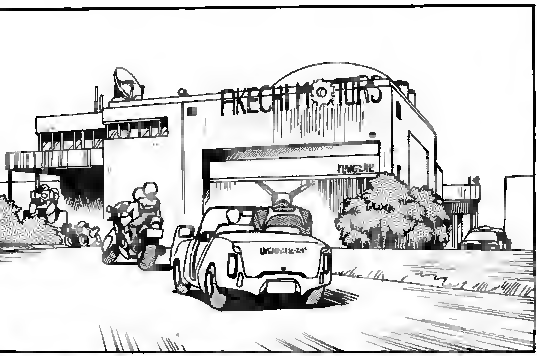

Hm ..
!?
VRMM VRMM
SKREEK
WAITING LONG?
BRM
BRM BRM
BRR
KLIK
DID YOU REGISTER? GOT YOUR CITIZEN CARDS?
OUI!
MM
OKAY... LET'S GO!
HOLD IT A SEC! WHERE TO?

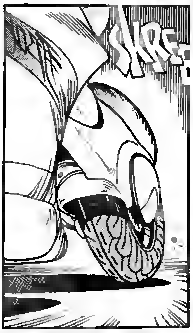
YOU CAN STAY AT MY PLACE 'TIL YOU FIND WORK.
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE
JUST HANG ON! WHAT ABOUT BRIAREOS?
YEAH! RIGHT!
DON'T GET IN A SNARL! CAB'S BACK THERE, MY BUY.
READY?
VRRM

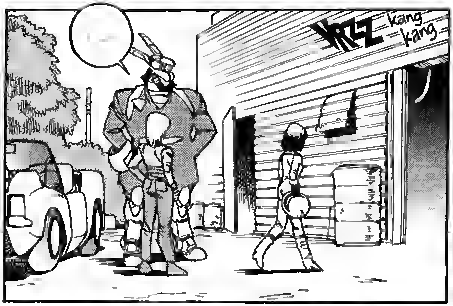

VRRM
IT'S REALLY OKAY TO STAY AT YOUR PLACE?
SURE UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE THE FIRST VAGRANTS IN OLYMPUS HISTORY.
VRRM
VRRRM
BRMM
?
Hm?

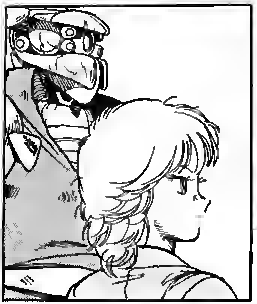

THIS BIKE'S *WEIRD.*
Uh-huh.
THE FORKS ARE FREE-FLOATING... THE SLOWER YOU GO, THE SHARPER YOU TURN.
REALLY? SO WHAT KEEPS US FROM GOING OVER?
COMPUTERIZED DRIVE-BY-WIRE. A SPIN-OFF FROM CYBERJOINT ENGINEERING
EVEN THE FAIRING'S BIOTECH, SELF-HEALING. YOU NEED A SPECIAL WAX, OF COURSE.
I THOUGHT HYBRID MATERIALS WERE HOT STUFF BUT *THAT* IS CREEPY!
EVERYTHING IN THE CITY'S CYBERNETIC.
BUT THAT'S 'CAUSE OUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY IS "PEOPLE FIRST."
"FUNCTIONAL SIMPLICITY, STRUCTURAL COMPLEXITY: THE BEST LIFE FOR ALL." THAT'S THE MAXIM THE CITY PLANNERS GAVE OUR MANAGERS.

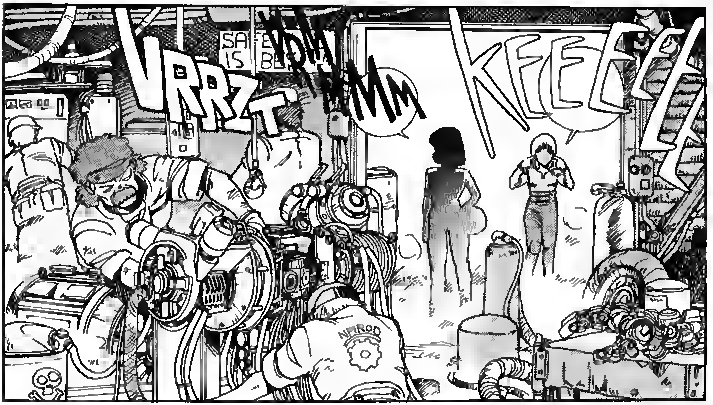

EVEN THE ARCOLOGY BLOCKS ARE DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE SHADOWS IN THE WINTER.
OPTICAL FIBERS BRING NATURAL SUNLIGHT INSIDE
OPTO-ELECTRONICS LET YOU TWO GET THROUGH REGISTRATION SO QUICKLY.
IF WE WANTED, WE COULD TURN NIGHT INTO DAY.
SCIENCE. THE NEW BLACK MAGIC...
MIND IF I MAKE A LITTLE DETOUR?
Eh? GO AHEAD.
YEE...
BLACK OR WHITE, IT'S ALL UP TO THE USER...
VRRR


AKECHI MOTORS


SKR


VRRZ
kang
kang




VRRT
MMM
KFEEE

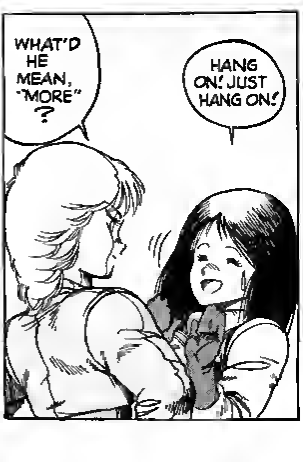
YOO HOO! YOSHI!
HI!!
YOU!! YOU...!
"YOSHI" ...?
REMEMBER? THOSE LETTERS!
WH... WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT'S WRONG?!

YOU DISAPPEARED FOR THREE DAYS WITHOUT A WORD! I'VE BEEN WORRIED SICK!
VRRM
BUT.. IT'S MY JOB..

JUST QUIT THAT JOB ALREADY, huh?
FSHH
...I'M SORRY...

ANYWAY.. WHAT'S UP TODAY?
WE'RE SHOPPING FOR A LANDMATE... WANT A SNEAK PREVIEW.

BE ANOTHER SIX MONTHS ON SALES. AND THEY'RE RESTRICTED...
THAT'S NO PROBLEM FOR THESE TWO THEY'RE NEW ARRIVALS.
WHAT, MORE?

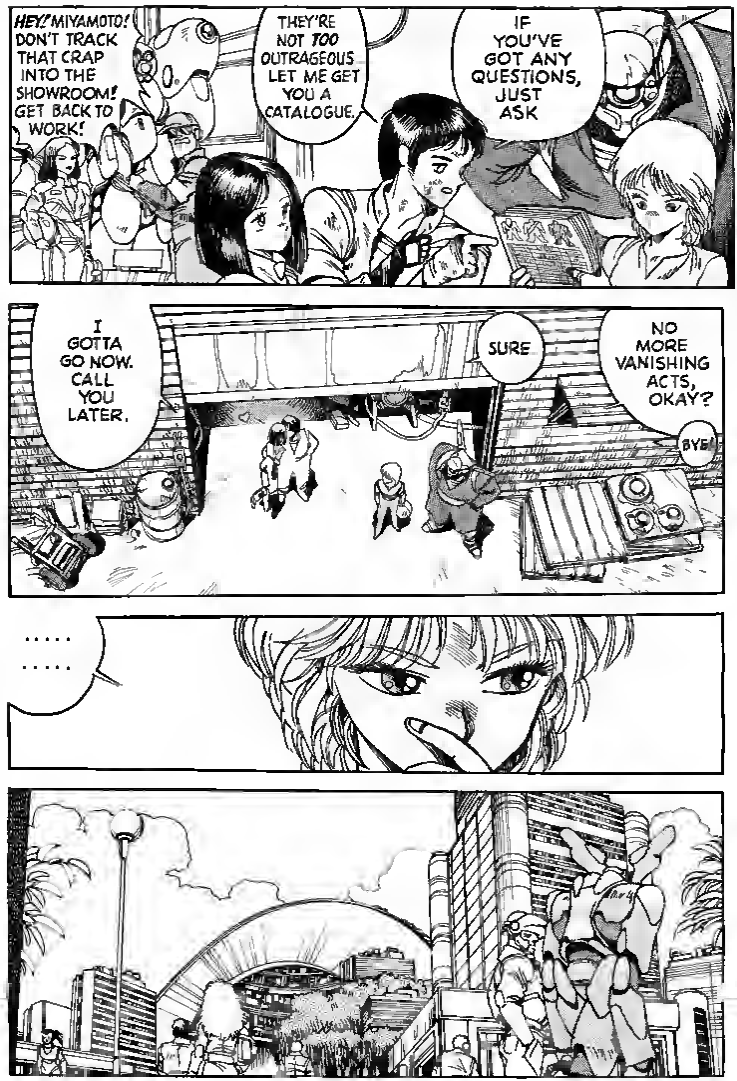

WHAT'D HE MEAN, "MORE"?
HANG ON! JUST HANG ON!

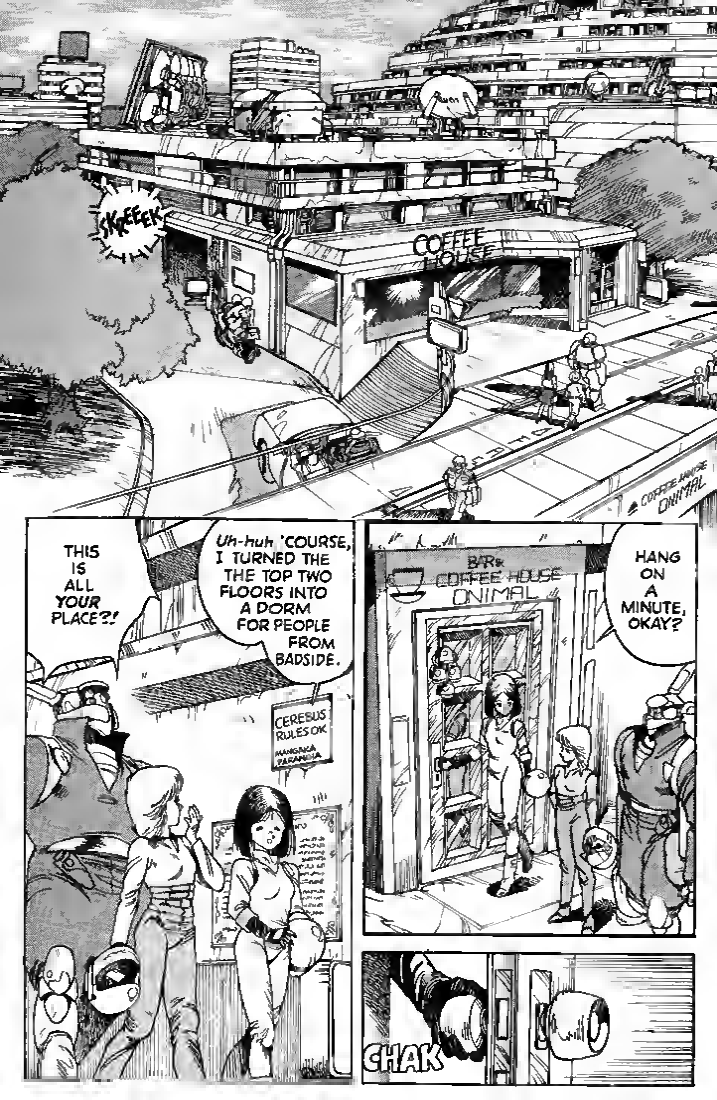
LOOK... YOU KNOW THAT STUFF ABOUT JOBS? WELL, YOUR ONLY REAL CHOICES ARE MANUAL LABOR IN THE OUTLANDS, OR THE POLICE
EITHER WAY, YOU'LL NEED A LAND MATE.
YOU...
YOU'RE USING ME FOR SOME-THING...
AHAHA HA HAHA... AHEH... Heh...
ANYWAY.. WHAT'S A LAND-MATE?
YEAH, WHAT?
YEAH, WHAT?
THIS! THIS!

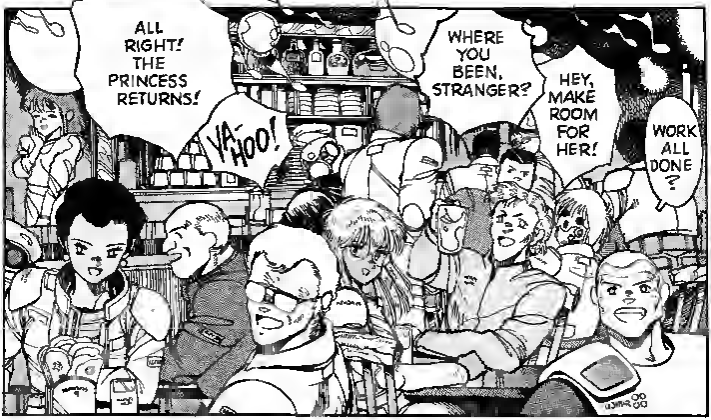
USUALLY YOU MAKE IT SIT BEFORE YOU PUT IT ON..
KCHK
VWEEEE
BEEP!
EEEEEEE*
Oh, YEAH... I'M WORKING ON THIS ONE, SO I'VE YANKED THE BUFFERS AND THE EXOSKELETON.
JUST SO YOU KNOW.
WE ALSO CALL 'EM SYNCHRO-PROTECTORS OR EXOSKELETONS, SEE?
VRZZZ
SKKEE

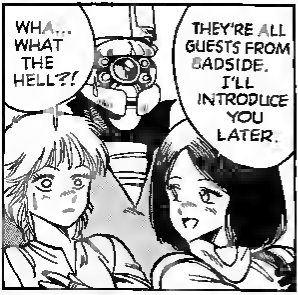
SO BASICALLY, YOU WALK AROUND WEARING A MACHINE THAT COPIES EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE.
GOT IT!
BECAUSE OF THE JOINT ARRANGEMENT, THE LEGS DOUBLE THE ANGLE ON FORE-AND-AFT MOVEMENTS.
PROTECTIVE MOVEMENTS ARE PERFECT AROUND TO 120 DEGREES EITHER SIDE ...
THOUGH ACTUALLY YOU DON'T NEED ARMOR BACK THERE IF YOU LEARN TO REACT RIGHT.
VEEE VEEE VI*
SINCE THE WHOLE BODY'S ARMORED, EVEN HITOMI COMES OUT BOWLEGGED.. HEH...
WHAT?!
I DO NOT!
Hmm MAYBE LIGHT WEIGHT WITH HIGH TENSILE STRENGTH IS THE ANSWER.
WE'RE FLAT BROKE SO DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!
COME ON... THERE'S ONE ON DISPLAY IN THE SHOWROOM.
YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO SEE ONE FITTED OUT...
.....

AGAIN? YOU'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET OUT OF WORK, WON'T YOU!
Eheh, heh..
THIS ONE'S OUR MOST ANTHROPO-MORPHIC MODEL.
GUESS YOU'D NEED IT FOR CYBORG CRIMES.
GUGES
LATEST S.W.A.T. SPECIFICATIONS (STANDARD VERSION)
THE NEW FACE OF S.W.A.T.
THE LINEAR LOCK CONTROL PREVENTS POWER LOSS, AND THIS LITTLE BEAUTY COMES IN UNDER 1.5 TONS!
HA HA HA
I THINK YOU LIKE THEM MORE THAN ME!

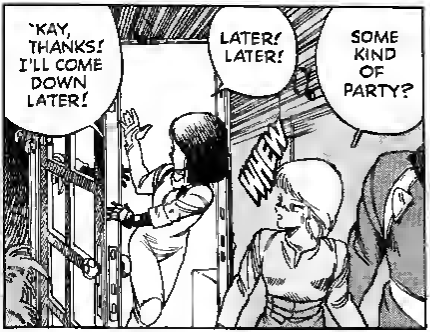

HEY! MIYAMOTO! DON'T TRACK THAT CRAP INTO THE SHOWROOM! GET BACK TO WORK!
THEY'RE NOT TOO OUTRAGEOUS LET ME GET YOU A CATALOGUE.
IF YOU'VE GOT ANY QUESTIONS, JUST ASK
I GOTTA GO NOW. CALL YOU LATER.
SURE
NO MORE VANISHING ACTS, OKAY?
BYE!
.....
.....


SKEEEK
COFFEE HOUSE
COFFEE HOUSE ONIMAL
THIS IS ALL YOUR PLACE?!
Uh-huh 'COURSE, I TURNED THE THE TOP TWO FLOORS INTO A DORM FOR PEOPLE FROM BADSIDE.
CERESUS RULES OK
MANGANGA ZARANGA
BAR COFFEE HOUSE ONIMAL
HANG ON A MINUTE, OKAY?
CHAK


ALL RIGHT! THE PRINCESS RETURNS!
YA-HOO!
WHERE YOU BEEN, STRANGER?
HEY, MAKE ROOM FOR HER!
WORK ALL DONE?


WHA... WHAT THE HELL?!
THEY'RE ALL GUESTS FROM BADSIDE. I'LL INTRODUCE YOU LATER.

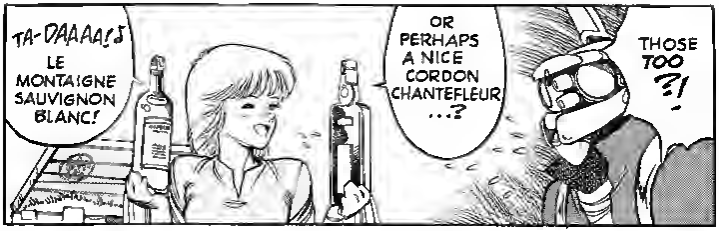
DELIVERY GUYS DROPPED SOME STUFF OFF ON THE THIRD FLOOR
FIGURE IT'S THEIRS?
HEY, YOSHI'S PISSED OFF AT YOU!

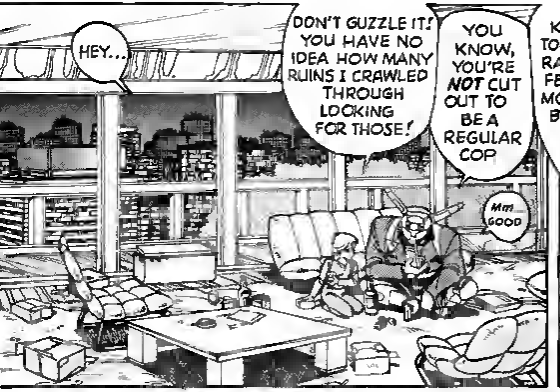

`KAY, THANKS! I'LL COME DOWN LATER!
LATER! LATER!
SOME KIND OF PARTY?
WHEW

AW, IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS AFTER WORK.
OKAY, LET'S GET YOUR ROOM READY!
HA HA

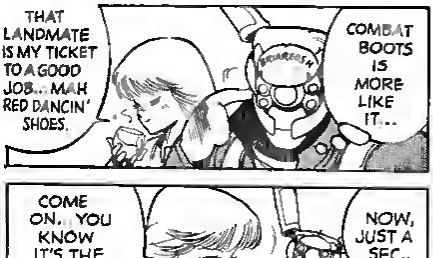
WHEW...
THE CITY LIGHTS ARE BEAUTIFUL
THIS IS REALLY NICE. IT FEELS SO... SO *SAFE* HERE
OKAY, DEUNAN...
OUT WITH IT!
YOU WANT ONE OF THOSE LAND-WHATSIT THINGS, RIGHT? WE DON'T HAVE A CENT, BUT I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ALREADY PLANNING ON A LOAN, *Hmm?*
SAY... YOU INSTALL SOME KINDA NEW SENSOR OR SOME-THING?
COME ON!
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE WE BEEN A TEAM? POINTMAN AND FIRST MARKS-MAN.

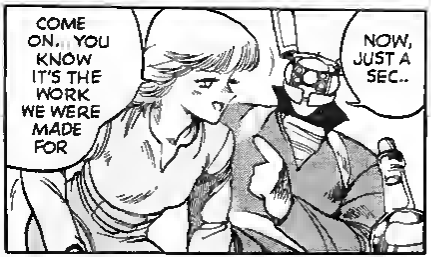
WELL, YOU GUESSED RIGHT, ANYWAY
I'LL NEED ONE IF I ENLIST. BESIDES, I *LIKE* TOYS LIKE THAT.
SO YOU INTEND TO JOIN THE FORCE HERE?
IF WE WANT TO EAT, WITHOUT ENDING UP GRUBBING IN THE DIRT ON SOME FARM, WE BETTER FIND SOMETHING WE CAN DO WELL
AND ANYWAY, WHAT *OTHER* WORK COULD I DO?
LITTLE LATE FOR A CAREER CHANGE ...
SHNGG
Heh, heh .. IT'S ALL RIGHT. I HID IT IN THE BUSHES DURING QUARANTINE.
AHA HA
THAT'S *SMUGGLING!*
WELL, IT COUGH WINGS GIRLS GOTTA SAVE PROTECT AND ALL
HEY!
WHERE'D *THAT* COME FROM ?!


TA-DAAAA!S
LE MONTAIGNE SAUVIGNON BLANC!
OR PERHAPS A NICE CORDON CHANTEFLEUR ...?
THOSE TOO ?!

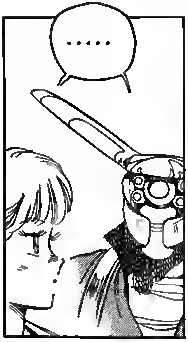

HEY...
DON'T GUZZLE IT! YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MANY RUINS I CRAWLED THROUGH LOOKING FOR THOSE!
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE NOT CUT OUT TO BE A REGULAR COP
Mm GOOD

I KNOW, I KNOW. I'M TOO MUCH OF A RATIONALIST. I FEEL THAT MONEY SHOULD BE SPENT TO PROTECT VICTIMS, NOT CRIMINALS
BEST THING TO DO WITH THOSE THUGS IS WIPE THEM OUT


THAT LANDMATE IS MY TICKET TO A GOOD JOB... MAH RED DANCIN' SHOES.
COMBAT BOOTS IS MORE LIKE IT...

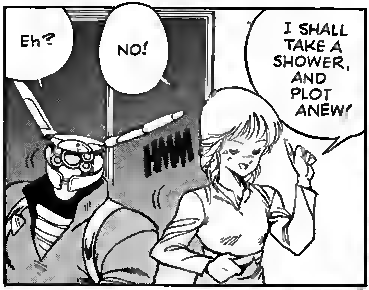

COME ON... YOU KNOW IT'S THE WORK WE WERE MADE FOR
NOW, JUST A SEC..

GONE ALREADY ...?
WHO'S THIS "WE" YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT? I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST THE WINE THAT WAS MAKING ME SEE DOUBLE...

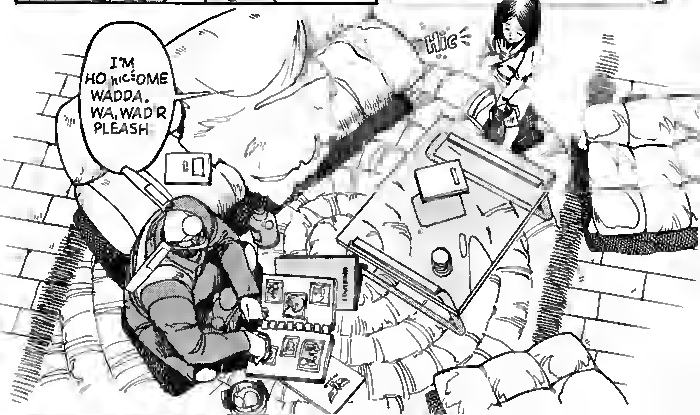

.....

BUHAHA HAHA HAHA
?!?

IT'S JUST NOT FAIR. I SPENT ALL THAT TIME WHILE WE WERE CLEANING UP THINKING OF HOW I COULD PERSUADE YOU, AND THEN...


Eh?
NO!
I SHALL TAKE A SHOWER, AND PLOT ANEW!
HMM

Mmff! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE...BETTER COME UP WITH A BETTER ANSWER...
SO... Hmm...


I'M HOMEICIDE WADDA. WA, WAD'R PLEASH
Hic

WHERE'SH DEUNAN . ?
IN THE SHOWER
HEY, YOU CAN'T SLEEP HERE . YOU'LL CATCH A CO...
SHHC
?
SSS
SSSSS
SSSS
S
CHK
KCHAK

GOLLY...;hic; WE DON'T DO HARAKIRI ANYMORE... REALLY...
!
Oh...IT'S YOU... I'M NOT DONE YET, YOU KNOW!
SGS
S'OKAY... THOUGHT I'D SCRUB Y'R BACK..
THANKS, BUT NO THANKS! TEN MINUTES!
;Hic;
WHA-!?!
WH-WHY ARE YOU SO COLD?!
I... YOU KNOW, I..
GULP

YOU... YOU IDIOT!! I'M NOT INTO THAT! LEGGO!
LET GO, I SAID!
TONK TONK
HITOMI?!
FLIP
ZZZ ZZNZ
THAT LITTLE...!! STONE BLOODY DRUNK!
ZGZNZZ...
WHBLOOSH
WAKE UP!
WHAT'S THE ZUHK?
GONG!

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